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DATE: June 27, 1984

NOTE TO: [redacted]
Director of Data Processing

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SUBJECT: RECON GUARD

Gail,

Our favorite topic again! I talked with [redacted] about our next step (oh , pray let's take one!). Unfortunately, his RECON GUARD referee is on leave & won't be able to meet until Friday.

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Dick said that OCR has not completed their evaluation of the tests. A few problems/questions still are outstanding. Despite [redacted] assertions that ISSG has OK'ed the system , OCR has not seen their evaluation or been contacted . (Note the good group dynamics!). I will talk to [redacted] myself.

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During our conversation, I pointed out that several questions have to be answered:

- * Has the prototype system demonstrated to OCR, ODP, & ISSG the feasibility of the concept? (The prototype was not intended to be evaluated in an operational environment. Operational testing the prototype will only show shortfalls stemming from design tradeoff decisions which will not be present in the "operational" system.) BUT, we need the test RESULTS first. Logic is a step by step process !!
- * If we all agree that the prototype has proved the concept, should an " operational " system be built? (I think so.)
- * Should we still do the " operational" testing with RECON? If so, is OCR prepared to support the Intelligence Community? If not, when will the IHC be informed? What other data base could we use ? (Ah, sweet decisions!!)
- * If it is agreed that RECON is to become a Community system, should it be done using COINS or directly? If COINS , the IHC has to address major security networking questions. Simply put, I doubt if the DO will allow ORCON material to traverse COINS for even previously disseminated info without strong security guarantees that only the right party will receive it. Dare I ask about NOFORN, NOCONTRACT, ETC.? (WE should ask the network security question in our response to [redacted] . A bee for his bonnet !)
- * The ODP question is one of SPACE? Another, is resources (operators & disc space) to operate the system. (NPIC's COINS experience has been good after serious "start up" QUIRKS. The COINS HAS appears stable & requires minimal operator intervention. NPIC is not comfortable with a contractor updating the HAS REMOTELY.) Sweet Helen, beware of COINS HORSES.

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Once in the city , they will be a constant nuisance! The IHC
wishlist will grow - new SANDBOXES will emerge daily!

I recommend we softpedal the SPACE issue -- let OCR lead for
now. [] would go wild but let's save it for later.

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Do you have any thoughts? Other direction? I am soo glad to wrestle
with this Tarbaby. By the way, [] got stats on IC use of RECON
extracts on COINS -- they average about 30 queries daily.

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TJ

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